

Mr. Quinn

INFORMAL MINUTES OF MEETING OF DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANTS, INTERDEPARTMENTAL FOREIGN INFORMATION ORGANIZATION, ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1951, HELD IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, AT 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Department of State

Mr. Barrett, Director
Mr. Cechsner, Acting Executive Secretary
(Mr. Phillips For part of meeting)
(Mr. MacKnight
Mrs. Curran
General Magruder
Admiral Stevens
General McClure

Department of Defense
Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of the Army
Central Intelligence Agency

Economic Cooperation Administration
For Mr. Harriman

Mr. Berding
Mr. Lanigan

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1. The minutes of the meeting of February 12 were approved as written.
2. Supplementary report on discussion with R and DB and others re. balloon research:

25X1A General Magruder reported that due to the coordinated efforts of General Yates (Air Force) [redacted] a meeting had been called of all the areas *agencies* interested in this subject. As a result of this meeting, it was determined that the Office of Naval Research will coordinate the research and development, including priority problems. All Services will continue to be responsible for the development of release mechanisms and gondola equipment, with ONR kept fully advised of such activities. General Magruder pointed out the lack of sources of gas and/or gas generation units will hamper [redacted] in stockpiling activities *and*

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[redacted]

3. Drew Pearson Proposal:

It was agreed that:

1) Mr. Barrett will advise Mr. Pearson (who has already left for Turkey and Europe) that the Department cannot, because of technical and other problems, support his proposal, and will recommend further discussion by Mr. Pearson and those who have studied the subject, when he returns to the United States.

2) The Department should notify the Missions involved that the proposal does not have the sanction of the Department.

State Department review completed

3) Mr. Phillips should advise the British Embassy liaison that the proposal does not have the sanction of the Department.

4. SHAPE - NATO Information and Psychological Warfare Planning:

Messrs. Barrett and Oechsner reported they had reviewed the reply given last summer to the NATO Standing Committee on the matter of psychological warfare planning, see minutes February 12th meeting. The Board agreed that this paper should be brought up-to-date, with action responsibility to Mr. Oechsner.

5. Psychological Warfare Plan for General War:

Mr. Oechsner reported this Plan is still in the working group and will be distributed prior to the next Board meeting.

6. German Planning:

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25X1A [] inquired as to the status of planning in this field. The Board was advised that the [] report was currently being reviewed, and that an information policy paper for this area is being worked on as a result of this review.

7. Output to Korea:

Mr. Hulten gave a brief report on this subject.

8. Russian Plan:

Mr. Phillips reported that the Plan was still being compiled and would be ready for distribution at an early date. The VOA is already following the policy outlined in this Plan.

9. The Chairman recommended stepping up the tempo of the campaign to undermine the idea of the infallibility of the Kremlin regime. Mr. Phillips is to call a meeting of the interested members (including Admiral Stevens and []) for discussion of the Department's Draft Guidance on this subject.

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10. Admiral Stevens pointed out the need for a plan for an ideological attack on the Communists. The Chairman suggested that Mr. Kohler be invited to an early meeting of the Board. (Note: Mr. Kohler is unable to be present at the next meeting, but advises that Mr. Bertram Wolfe, Chief of the Ideological Advisory Unit of VOA, is planning a trip to Washington the week of February 26th).

11. Mr. MacKnight gave a report on the status of the cable to HICOG on defectors.

SECRET